



# michoud messenger

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## STS-135 Crew Visits Michoud

The STS-135 crew visited NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility Aug. 10 to thank employees for their work in getting them into space. The crew also showed a video, which reflected on the 30-year Space Shuttle Program and described their mission.

Crew Commander Chris Ferguson told workers the external tank (ET) used for the mission was one of the best he has seen. Ferguson lauded employees for their work in building ET-138 and noted, "It was a very clean tank."

On July 8, Commander Ferguson, along with pilot Doug Hurley and mission specialists Sandy Magnus and Rex Walheim, launched into space on board Space Shuttle Atlantis on a mission to deliver tons of

supplies, including food and tools, to the International Space Station.

Doug Hurley, a Tulane graduate, said he was happy to be back in the Crescent City and glad to see so many Michoud workers come out and see the mission video. Hurley said ET-138 was "next to perfect."

Walheim said Michoud employees should consider the achievements of the International Space Station their own. "You all built that space station," Walheim said. "You should be proud of it."

NASA contractors at Michoud continue to build the Orion multi-purpose crew vehicle, the next generation spacecraft.

*From right to left - STS-135 Commander Chris Ferguson, Pilot Doug Hurley, and Mission Specialists Sandy Magnus and Rex Walheim address Michoud workers in the factory Aug. 10.*



## Letters from Leadership

I'd like to take some time to salute the thousands of men and women who have made the Shuttle External Tank Program at Michoud a success. Their legacy is historic, and we will build on it as we develop the next transportation systems to support the human exploration of space. I'd like to stress that we are not ending human space flight; we are recommitting ourselves to it.

The president has laid out an ambitious vision for human space flight that will take American astronauts beyond where we've ever been before – with the ultimate goal being a human mission to Mars. This plan speeds up the development of technology to take us deeper into space and anticipates travel to a series of destinations including asteroids, our own Moon, the moons of Mars, and eventually Mars itself. The President's vision – negotiated with bipartisan support from Congress – allows NASA to focus its resources on exploration

and innovation, while leveraging private sector resources to continue taking Americans to the International Space Station in low Earth orbit whose mission has been extended until at least 2020.

This new strategy means more jobs for the country, more American astronauts in space over the next decade, and more investments in innovation. It will result in a longer operating lifetime for the International Space Station and new launch capabilities that will become available sooner and enable travel to multiple destinations and frontiers in space. Our focus is to assure that Michoud is prepared and ready to be a part of this next adventure.

So as we take time to remember for Space Shuttle Program, let's look ahead with full optimism to the new chapter in NASA's storied history.

– Robert Champion, Michoud COO



## Operation Clean Sweep Call to Action

Operation Clean Sweep will be the largest, single-day volunteer cleanup effort in New Orleans East since Hurricane Katrina. On September 17th, over 300 volunteers will be converging on key corridors in New Orleans East clearing debris, cutting lots and picking up trash to assist economic development efforts in the area.

Jacobs Technology is sponsoring the event and needs your help. Volunteers will be treated to a post-event celebration in Joe Brown Park featuring live music from local bands, games and food.

Operation Clean Sweep is led by New Orleans City Councilman Joe Johnson, in conjunction with business, civic, and faith-based organizations in New Orleans East. The cleanup's mission is to enhance the community as New Orleans East stakeholders begin an aggressive retail attraction campaign hosting many of the largest retailers in the country.

Operation Clean Sweep is being held Sept. 17, from 7:00 a.m. until noon, with the party at Joe Brown Park to follow. To volunteer, please call 504-264-1709 or email [nolaeastcleansweep@gmail.com](mailto:nolaeastcleansweep@gmail.com).

# Great Balls of Ice



*Michoud employees got a break from the sweltering summer heat July 28 during "snowball day." The Michoud Employee Morale and Welfare Committee sponsored the event.*

# Michoud Credit Union

The Michoud Credit Union remains open to on-site personnel and can provide personal banking, loans, ATM cards, online banking, and checks in building 101. The bank is making efforts to accommodate its off-site customers since the closing of the 101 lobby. With many of its clientele now with limited access to the facility, Board of Directors President James Moffett says the credit union is making efforts to remain accessible, by shuttling transactions to the 350 lobby and completing some work with clients over the phone.

The credit union is planning to become more accessible with the introduction of a mobile banking system that they hope to be set up within a few weeks near the site of the Coast Guard Exchange.

# Civil Air Patrol Visits MAF



*From left to right: Civil Air Patrol Cadets Juan Obando, Lowell Dressel, and Jonathan Balint.*

Several members of the Louisiana Wing, Civil Air Patrol (CAP) visited Michoud Aug. 9 as part of the Second Annual CAP Cadet NASA Michoud Assembly Facility Tour. The CAP is a Congressionally chartered, federally supported corporation made up of volunteers. The CAP serves three missions outlined by Congress: emergency services, aerospace education and cadet programs for teenage youth.

The cadets were especially interested in visiting the mission patches for STS-126 and STS-133 where they admired the pictures of Eric Boe. He was a cadet in the Georgia Wing of the CAP.

The CAP Cadet Program uses aviation as a cornerstone to promote aerospace education, leadership training, physical fitness and moral leadership in children and young adults ages 12-21. Lowell Dressel, who attended the tour, hopes to use his experience in the CAP to propel him towards acceptance into the Air Force Academy.

## Enter to Win \$100

All you have to do is  
come up with a catchy

## Health & Safety Slogan

Don't forget to stop by the  
**Health and Safety Fair**  
October 19, 2011  
Bldg 351 East Cafeteria

Please send your slogan by **September 2nd** to  
Tammy Austin at [tammy.p.austin@nasa.gov](mailto:tammy.p.austin@nasa.gov) or  
Patsy Ashton at [patsy.ashton@usda.gov](mailto:patsy.ashton@usda.gov).



# TV Weatherman Talks to Michoud About 2011 Hurricane Season

WWL-TV Chief Meteorologist Carl Arredondo visited the monthly Safety "Instagator" meeting to discuss the different methods of predicting hurricanes and how it will affect this hurricane season. He also predicted that this season would be a continuance of the cycle of active years we have been in. Arredondo says this year will be a particularly active year especially if the hot, dry weather we have been seeing shifts away from our area.

Arredondo said in order to be successful in the event of an evacuation, it is imperative that your family have a plan and takes the necessary precautions. When a storm is eminent, think about your home's vulnerability to flooding, wind damage and storm surges. He told the group, if an evacuation has not been mandated, find the safest areas in your home (or community). In the event that you need to evacuate, determining escape routes and safe meeting places beforehand. It is a good idea to have an out-of-state friend as a contact so all your family members know where to go and who to be in touch

with. Know what you plan to do with your pets prior to evacuation -- transportation can be a problem and some hotels will not allow certain pets. Arredondo added to maintain an emergency preparedness kit including non-perishable emergency supplies and a disaster supply kit. Use a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather radio with new batteries.

Remember, emergency workers may not be able to reach everyone right away, and in some

cases it may take three or more days for help to arrive. Planning ahead for your family and their needs will help ensure their safety and comfort during these difficult times.

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National Aeronautics and Space Administration

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